



Meteor



Heraut

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Around USAG Benelux



Call to Duty

Boots on the Ground

The 231st U.S. Army Birthday Ball is set for June 24, at the SHAPE Club.

A reception will kickoff the gala at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner and dancing. Soldiers of all ranks, retirees, Department of the Army Civilian employees, their family members and guests are invited to attend.

Daycare service will be available at the SHAPE Child Development Center. For more information, contact your unit first sergeant or call DSN: 360-7533.



PHOTO: J.D. Hardesty

U.S. Army Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. John Gaines (left) and U.S. Army NATO Brigade Command Sgt. Maj. Garry D. Tull (right) buy their Army Ball tickets from Christine Evans.

USAG Schinnen



PHOTO: LaDonna Davis

Capt. Jayson Spangler outgoing detachment commander for Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, U.S. Army Garrison Schinnen relinquishes command of the detachment May 24 to Capt. Rhonda St. Peters.

USAG Benelux Memorial Day *Honoring those who gave their all*



PHOTO: Cis Spook

Belgian and American flags placed at the graves of U.S. Armed Forces at Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery Memorial Day signify the Allied partnership the two countries have shared for 92 years. There are 7,992 buried at the cemetery who were killed during World War II. More than 26,000 Americans are buried in American cemeteries across the Benelux.

By J.D. Hardesty

Meteor-Heraut Editor

Thousands of Americans and Belgians flocked to one of the five American Battlefield cemeteries to pay their respects to World War I and II U.S. Armed Forces who sacrificed their lives

to liberate Europe.

Flanders Field American Cemetery in Waregem, Belgium, is the final home to 368 service members who died while liberating Europe, "368 lives cut short by war," said U.S. Marine Lt. Gen. Edward Hanlon, Jr.,

U.S. Military Representative, NATO Military Committee, who spoke at several of the Memorial Day ceremonies across the Benelux.

Though the artillery rounds are silent and the trench warfare is over,

See Memorial Day, Page 7

WWII Allies, Brothers, Friends



PHOTOS: Courtesy John Driskoll family

Sgt. Gerald E. Sorensen (left), a B-17 Flying Fortress turret gunner, fought against the Third Reich with Roger Abeels and his secret Belgian underground Army. The two allies became brothers in arms until they died, side-by-side in September 1944. They are buried as they died, side-by-side in Ganshoren, Belgium.

Belgian resistance fighter, American ball turret gunner live, fight, die side-by-side for freedom

By J.D. Hardesty

Meteor-Heraut Editor

There are 26,698 U.S. Armed Forces buried in four American Battlefield Cemeteries across the Benelux who fought to liberate Europe in World War II.

Unlike the white crosses that mark his military brethren's final resting place, one of America's "Greatest Generation" is buried in an isolated grave in the Ganshoren Cemetery just northeast of Brussels.

Sgt. Gerald E. Sorensen, a B-17 turret gunner who flew 28 successful bombing missions against the Third Reich, does not lie there alone. Next to him lies his "Belgian brother," Roger Abeels, an underground resistance fighter with the "Armée Blanche" who helped hide him from German forces when he parachuted from his damaged Flying Fortress near Ath, Belgium after his plane was hit

See Brothers, Page 3



Col. Dean A. Nowowiejski
USAG Benelux Commander

June is the time for moving, welcoming newcomers, Flag Day and the Army Birthday, and some random updates are buried in this note. You will want to read the whole thing.

Regarding PCS season, here are a few quick reminders. First, if you are a newcomer, look for the brand new

Nowowiejski Notes

Best of the Benelux Newcomer's Guide, due out in hard copy, and available from your Army Community Services.

This guide covers Brussels, Schinnen, and Chièvres, and is designed to help you settle into your joint community in support of NATO and your host nation.

If you are a sponsor, you will want to get a copy of this guide to your sponsoree immediately on their arrival, or through the mail while they are preparing to move, if possible.

Again, hearty thanks to the sponsors for the work they do in taking care of our new team members in the Benelux. Please check the web site: www.usagbenelux.eur.army.mil for updated information useful to your sponsorship all summer.

A word on **inprocessing** and **outprocessing**. Don't skip and don't

shortcut it. It is vitally important to you and the community.

Inprocessing and outprocessing procedures are designed to be standard and mandatory. They are made to assist in a smooth transition, to help you get settled or to depart with the minimum of hassle and liability.

Those who ignore steps or in settling their obligations end up paying later, so it's not worth it. A big part of the American community's reputation and your impression and comfort in your host nation is established through careful in and out processing.

We meet many of our SOFA (Status of Forces Agreement) obligations through completion of these checks. Please address your suggestions or questions regarding better standard and mandatory procedures to your local processing center.

June 14th is Flag Day and the United

States Army's 231st birthday. I thank our joint communities in support of NATO in advance for helping your executive agent Army garrisons as we join together with other Army units to celebrate our service's birthday.

A big part of this is the **Benelux Army Ball** on Saturday evening, June 24, at the SHAPE Club. Tickets are on sale now, on a first-come, first-served, and are expected to sell out.

Check the USAG Benelux web site for particulars.

We emphasize that this event is for friends of the Army across the Benelux: Rotterdam, Rheindahlen, Munster, The Hague, Schinnen, Brunssum, Brussels, our Field Support Brigade sites, and the host community at Chièvres/SHAPE.

Come to the ball and spend the night at the Hotel Maisières, your local Army lodge.

This Army Ball will honor all the customs of celebrating the Army's birthday at a formal social affair, and will be an evening to remember.

Overseas income tax deadline nears

Northern Law Office

Now that the tax season is nearly finished, its time for some housekeeping. A little bit of work now can make tax time next year less stressful.

First, if you haven't yet completed your 2005 tax return, completing it should be a top priority. The Northern Law Center Tax Center is open through June 15 to assist you.

Second, if you received a large federal tax refund or had

a large tax bill when you filed your taxes, you should consider adjusting the amount of tax withheld from your paycheck. The IRS provides an on-line withholding calculator at <http://www.irs.gov/individuals/page/0,,id=14806,00.html> to help. Once you know the number of exemptions, you can change your withholdings on-line on MyPay.

Third, resolve now to keep better records. Good record-

keeping will reduce the amount of time you (or your tax preparer) spend completing your tax return next year. A simple method is to buy a three-ring binder and dividers. Use one divider for your bank, one for your mortgage company, another for your credit card, and so on. When you receive a statement, file it in the appropriate section.

When filing statements, take time to highlight and la-

bel expenses that may show up on your tax return such as child care expenses, charitable donations, and higher education expenses. Of course, you should also retain your receipts for these expenses.

Finally, make sure you keep a copy of your tax return and all related records for at least three years. If you itemize your deductions, have capital gains, or have another complicated tax situation, you should

maintain records for at least 6 years.

Records related to investments (e.g., stocks) and real estate should be maintained as long as you own the investment or property.

For additional information or questions, please contact the Northern Law Center Tax Center at DSN 423-4906 or the Northern Law Center Legal Assistance Office at DSN 423-4868.

USAG Benelux American Independence Day celebrations

USAG Brussels, July 1, noon -6 p.m.
at the Brussels American School.

Chièvres/SHAPE communities, July 4, noon - 11 p.m. at the SHAPE GB shopping area.

USAG Schinnen, July 8, starting at noon
at Headquarters, Joint Forces Command, Brunssum, The Netherlands.



Directorate of Moral, Welfare and Recreation

U.S. Army garrisons' military communities will celebrate the 230th year of American independence this July.

Special interest groups, private organizations, family readiness groups and military units are encouraged to participate in the 2006 July 4th celebrations.

"As in previous years, the Directorate of Moral, Welfare and Recreation wants to provide a wide variety of American activities, such as athletic events for youth and adults, information and food booths, a dunk tank, face painting, live music, a talent/karaoke contest for our local stars of tomorrow, motorcycle display, carnival rides, go-carts and much, much more," said Harry Geesaman, USAG Benelux community recreation director and chairperson of the Chièvres/SHAPE Independence Day celebration.

"The 2006 July 4th celebration is a perfect opportunity for all Americans to promote, celebrate and share their freedom, pride and heritage," Geesaman added. "The American Independence Day celebrations are truly a highlight in the USAG Benelux and international military communities."

For more information, call: USAG Brussels: DSN 368-9639 or Civ: 02/717.9639, Chièvres Garrison: DSN 361-5589 or Civ: 068/27.5589, USAG Schinnen: DSN 360-7207 or Civ: 046/443.7207.

NOTE: July 4th celebrations and activities are open to all authorized ID card holders.

Brothers...from page 1

by anti-aircraft flak while returning from a bombing mission over Metz, France.

Their short-lived friendship - partners in the fight for freedom and eternal brothers in death - steepens with the ideology of chivalry, duty and honor.

According to a North American Newspaper Alliance story dispatched from Enghien, Belgium in October 1944, Sorensen's B-17 "caught it" May 1, 1944 on its return journey to England after bombing a railway yard in Metz.

With Sorensen acting as jumpmaster, the entire crew of 10 "bailed out" near Gibecq, Belgium.

While one of the crew was captured, all of the B-17's other Allied aircrew evaded capture with the help of the Belgian resistance "Comet Line," a network of reportedly over 1,000 people who guided airman from Brussels south through occupied France and neutral Spain to Gibraltar.

The 24-year-old Sorensen, a native of Pocatello, Idaho, refused to return to safety even though he had married Nora Lee just five days previous to entering military service.

Foraging on what he could find, hiding from German patrols in the dark, wet forest, Sorensen was befriended by Madame Anne Brusselmans, the head of the local resistance group.

After several weeks staying at various underground houses in the area, Sorensen was taken to the home of Arthur Abeels in Ganshoren in June.

The Abeels hid Sorensen for nearly two months, although the Abeels spoke only French and Flemish, and Sorensen spoke nothing but English. Soon, a brethren bond blossomed between the Abeels' 20-year-old son, Roger, and Sorensen.

Another American Airman, Bernard (Mac) McManaman was in hiding at the Abeels house.

Sorensen and McManaman joined Roger as "Armée Blanche" resistance fighters.

According to one of the "underground chiefs" in Saint Marcoult, Sorensen, McManaman and Abeels participated in guerrilla operations on Sept. 3, 1944, when Hitler's Nazi's were retreating across Belgium.

In April 1947, Emile P. Nerinck, the commander of "D" sector resistance, wrote, Abeels, Sorensen and others were in pursuit of a German patrol near Marcq-les-Enghien, Sorensen and Abeels climbed a wall and opened fire, killing three German officers and one sergeant.

The ambush, a small victory, turned into a blazing battle as German trucks and tanks piled into the battlefield corridor dusting the ground, houses and trees with grenades and machine gun fire against no more than 10 resistance fighters.

Underestimating the size of the German troops they ambushed, these 10 members of the "Secret Army" were quickly forced to retreat. Sorensen and Abeels took up a defensive position to cover the resistance fighters as they ran across an open field before finding a water-filled ditch as safe haven.

The two were easily separated from their fleeing comrades as bullets rained from both sides of the field.

According to Army records, Sorensen and Abeels were only armed with their submachine guns as they tried to repel more than 300 German troops with more firepower,



PHOTO: Courtesy of Andy and Robin Forsyth

Sgt. Gerald E. Sorensen coffin is carried into the Ganshoren Cemetery in September 1944. Sorensen is buried next to his "Belgian brother" Roger Abeels. Their short-lived friendship - partners in the fight for freedom and eternal brethren in death - steepens with the ideology of chivalry, duty and honor.

more weaponry and tanks to boot.

The Nazi's threw a grenade into their position. Shrapnel struck Sorensen in the head and neck while other pieces of the grenade ripped through Abeels' back.

The two friends, the two allies, the two brothers fighting for the same cause lay side-by-side, killed by the same grenade. Friends till the end, eternal blood brothers in death.

Vastly outnumbered and out equipped, Sorensen and Abeels' valiant, rear-guard action allowed their comrades to escape.

On Sept. 10, 1944, the Allied force of two were buried with honors in the community of Ganshoren's Cemetery. McManaman, along with several other resistance fighters attended the funeral with rifles in arms.

The families of Soldiers killed in action abroad could choose to have the remains repatriated home or buried in one of the American military cemeteries abroad.

Sorensen's father requested an exception to the policy to allow his son to remain buried in Ganshoren next to his friend with whom he fought and died. His letter states: "We feel that he is beside his friend and near the people who gave him a home when he was alone in a foreign land." The request was granted in January of 1949.

After the war, Nora Sorensen visited the Abeels in Belgium in 1947 and stayed in the family home for three months while she grieved the loss of her husband. Arthur Abeels wrote to her: "We have never met a better boy than him. When he called us Ma and Pa we were so happy. Roger and Jerry were like brothers together. It is for that reason they stayed together, and they died together."

According to 2nd Lt. George Smith, the copilot of the B-17 from which Sorensen and the crew parachuted to safety before it crashed into the Belgian countryside, "Sorensen died because he firmly believed in what we were fighting for. He would rather fight with the Belgians than return home to safety. Only those who knew him could understand." Sorensen was posthumously awarded five Belgian military honors, and a street was named after him in Ganshoren.

An inscription on the cross under Abeels name states, "Mort pour La Patrie" (died for the fatherland). Under Sorensen's name reads "Mort pour La Belgique" (died for Belgium). American and Belgian flags lay crossing each other at the base of Sorensen's cross.

About the Meteor-Heraut

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- We encourage letters to the editor, but they must be signed. We will consider withholding the name of the author upon request. Letters regarding an issue should contribute to informational interest.
- We reserve the right to edit all material for style, to fit available space, to resolve libel, safety or force protection issues and to correct grammar.
- Submit articles in plain text and separate photographic files, but publication depends upon the judgment of the editor.
- Event announcements must use civilian dates and times. Spell out acronyms and include a contact name, telephone number and e-mail address. We cannot reproduce prepared flyers in the *Meteor-Heraut*.

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Copy and photographs are due by noon 11 calendar days before publication date.

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Meteor-Heraut Deadline and Publication Dates

Copy is due at noon

Deadline	Print Date	Deadline	Print Date	Deadline	Print Date	Deadline	Print Date
May 22	June 2	July 17	July 28	Aug 14	Aug. 25	Sept. 11	Sept. 22
June 12	June 23	July 31	Aug. 11	Aug. 28	Sept. 8	Sept. 25	Oct. 6



Chièvres Garrison...serving SHAPE/Chièvres communities

Community Notes ‘The Dining Room’ opens at SHAPE Entertainment Center

The curtains will rise for the SHAPE Players six performances of A.R. Gurney’s “The Dining Room,” tonight at the SHAPE Entertainment Center.

The play, directed by Dan LaMort, is unique in that it takes place on a single set, a dining room, representing a host of dining rooms belonging to a host of different characters, 57 to be exact.

The action is comprised of a collection of interrelated scenes that range from the comic to the serious.

Each sketch introduces a different set of people and events, from little boys to stern grandfathers, from giggling teenage girls to Irish housemaids.

As one comic scene succeeds another, a whole pattern of American life emerges. “If the dining room walls could talk, this is what they would say!”

Performances:

Friday, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, 3 p.m.

June 9, 7:30 p.m.

June 10, 7:30 p.m.

June 11, 3 p.m.

Ticket prices:

Adult €9, Student €7, Child €5.

309th Airlift Squadron

‘Dining Out’ set

The 309th Airlift Squadron will host its annual “Dining Out” June 10 at the SHAPE Club. The festivities start at 6 p.m. with a social hour and the formal ceremony and dinner be from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Guest speaker will be Maurice Sperandieu who joined the Belgian Army shortly after his country was liberated in September 1944 and was attached to a Military Police battalion of General Patton’s Third Army. He also organizes the annual Battle of Bastogne walk. To purchase tickets, or for more information, call 361-5391 or 361-5191.



Bastogne honors all Soldiers who fought for freedom, liberty

PHOTO: Cis Spook

Members of Chièvres Garrison color guard, under the direction of Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Jessen (center), march Monday from the Mardasson Memorial, a memorial erected by Belgians near Bastogne, to honor all of the U.S. Forces who fought during the Battle of the Bulge to liberate the country.

Other color guard members from the Chièvres Garrison community (pictured from left to right) include Sgt. Jake Brice, Staff Sgt. Kevin Kolbe, Staff Sgt. Dawn Thomas and Staff Sgt. Dekishon Rogers.

Bastogne, under siege from the Third Reich in the winter of 1944, was one of the most critical turning points in the war.

The Battle of the Bulge, which lasted from Dec. 16, 1944 to Jan. 25, 1945, was the largest land battle involving American forces of World War II. More than a million Allied troops fought in the battle across the Ardennes, including some 500,000 Americans, 55,000 British.

Several color guard teams made up of service members from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, USAG Benelux and the 309th Airlift Squadron, supported three Memorial Day ceremonies at American cemeteries across Belgium.

Money crunch hits Chièvres Garrison

By J.D. Hardesty

Meteor-Heraut Editor

Everyone in the Army is learning to do more with less as fiduciary resources tighten this fiscal year.

Chièvres Garrison is no exception as shuttle bus schedules are being streamlined in an attempt to continue to provide quality services while reducing operational costs.

According to Chièvres Garrison Commander, Lt. Col. John Romero, “We are reducing the shuttle bus operating hours as part of a cost reduction initiative. Two routes were identified with no riders and were eliminated.”

The new schedule will start June 15. For more information, or to receive the new bus schedule, contact the transportation office on SHAPE.

“The garrison currently operates on 65 cents for every dollar needed to provide the community with the quality of life service and support,” Romero said.

While drivers are feeling the high cost of energy at the gas pumps, energy costs are skyrocketing for what is termed the largest operating expenditure in the garrison.

Directorate of Public of Public Works Director, Steve Dunham, said energy is the most expensive cost in running both USAG Benelux and Chièvres Garrison.

“Everyone in the community has to buy in to conservation, turning off lights when they are not needed, turning off monitors and scanners at night, anything to help save money.”

According to Dunham, DPW is working on a new policy and conservation program to help reduce costs.

The new Army Lodge scheduled to open in July of 2008 will help the garrison save more than \$800,000 in security costs once it is built on Chièvres Air Base.

Other quality of life construction projects include a new car wash, scheduled to open in November 2006 and a new Commissary, with 25,000 additional square feet of product space, is scheduled to open in January 2009.

The Army Air Force Exchange Service generated \$100,000 less investment back to the community this year, another indication of the declining dollars impacting Chièvres Garrison’s income stream.

Directorate of Emergency Services staff traffic violations are increasing on Chièvres Air Base and military police are averaging anywhere from 12 to 24 citations per day.

In other Town Hall issues, the Benelux Finance Office announced a change in policy for the second time in two weeks. According to Dave Marsh, deputy of dispersing, “Soldiers, family members and Department of Defense Civilians can now cash a check in the amount of \$3,000 per week per person.” The finance office policy changes were reflective of meeting U.S. Army Europe policy standards.

Retirees may now cash up to \$3,000 per week, up from the previous maximum of \$745 per week.

For those arriving in the Benelux footprint with motorcycles, DES also reminded riders that Motorcycle Safety Foundation courses are required before motorcyclists will be allowed to ride on any Department of Defense installation.

The SHAPE Healthcare Facility Commander Col. Mark D. Menich reminded parents requiring children’s physicals to attend Department of Defense Dependent School should have the physicals conducted before the start of the school year.

Menich also announced that a new pediatric/flight surgeon doctor is on staff.

The next garrison Town Hall is scheduled for August. Community members may send questions to paio@benelux.army.mil.

USAG Schinnen...serving the tri-border community

Asian-Pacific Heritage celebrated with Luau

By LaDonna Davis

Schinnen Public Affairs Office

Cool beats, hula dancing and fire knives helped members of the Tri-Border community celebrate Asian-Pacific American Heritage month May 5.

The Hawaiian-based Polynesian Dance troupe, Ma'ohi Nui (Ma- O- He Nu), entertained audience members as they dressed in numerous elaborate costumes and danced to the beats of thunderous drums, conch shells, and traditional South Pacific music.

"Performing is a good way for us to inform people about our culture, especially the Polynesian culture, which is all a part of the Asian -Pacific culture," said Mervyn Lilo, the owner and founder of the dance group.

With the help of Armed Forces Entertainment, the group of dancers, singers and musicians took their performance on the road to perform specifically at military bases and installations. This year's tour marks their third tour to enter-

tain America's forces overseas since 2002.

"Our experience has been awesome," Lilo says. "The whole reason we're here is to boost moral for families and troops that are overseas."

In addition to dancing and singing, the group also greeted attendees that entered the door in a traditional Hawaiian fashion with colorful lays and gave children and adults alike a chance to get tattoos airbrushed on their body.

The group performed cultural dances of Tahiti, Tonga, New Zealand and Hawaii and ended their performance in a grand fashion by performing a very dangerous, yet entertaining Samoan fire knife dance.

Asian Pacific American Heritage month is celebrated each year during the month of May to commemorate Asian and Pacific Islanders in the United States.



PHOTOS: LaDonna Davis

Above - Audience members were in for a shock when members of Ma'ohi Nui did a Bohemian dance using real fire knives. The group performed several dances that represent different parts of the South Pacific.

Left - The Polynesian dance group, Ma'ohi Nui, perform one of their traditional Hawaiian dances for audience members of the Tri-Border Community at USAG Schinnen May 5.



Hard work pays off for Schinnen NCO

Mariscal-Guzman named IMA-EUROs NCO of the Year

By LaDonna Davis

Schinnen Public Affairs Office

An Army warrior from U.S. Army Garrison Schinnen topped other Army Soldiers in tests of mental and physical strength to win the Installation Management Agency Europe Non-commissioned Officer of the Year award announced in Heidelberg, Germany May 15.

Staff Sgt. Antonio Mariscal-Guzman, a native of El Paso, Texas is the Nuclear Biological and Chemical training NCO for the garrison.

Mariscal went through a rigorous three days of competition May 10-12, that included PT testing, weapons qualification, a 12-mile road march, and written and oral exams to be named the IMA-EURO NCO of the year.

"This was my first year competing, so, it was a new experience and it was a hard experience to compete against



PHOTO: LaDonna Davis

Staff Sgt. Antonio Guzman-Mariscal pushes himself during the two-mile PT run that was part of the IMA-EURO NCO of the Year competition. Mariscal won IMA-E NCO of the Year and will now be competing for the IMA NCO of the Year in June at A.P. Hill, Va.

the rest of the NCO's," said Mariscal. "I had to study for a long time and do a lot of PT and go on road marches."

Even though the Texas native says he studied and worked out hard for the competition, the days challenges still presented unforeseen obstacles that Mariscal said, he didn't ready for.

"The hardest part of the competition was the road march, which is surprising because I had been training for it," he said. "But, we had been training in the morning and the day of competition it was really hot, the heat really got me."

The Soldier and NCO of the year competition is an annual Army tradition where the best of the best Army warriors are challenged to test their skills and knowledge against, not only themselves and each other, but against Army standards as well.

Soldiers first compete at their garrison level with winners battling at major garrisons.

The top Soldier and NCO from IMA-EUROs seven major garrisons (Mariscal represented USAG Benelux) competed for IMA's European Region NCO and Soldier of the Year.

Mariscal will represent IMA's European Region when he puts forth his

skills against the top Installation Management Agency NCOs in June at AP Hill, Va.

"I was shocked to find out I won because I had never done boards before," Mariscal said. "I knew that PT would carry me, I do a lot of physical exercise, and I knew that weapons would carry me, I'm very proficient in weapons, but the rest of the stuff I was nervous about."

The winners of the IMA NCO and Soldier of the Year will go on to compete with Soldiers from each major Army command for the ultimate titles of Department of the Army Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Year.

But for Mariscal, that's the farthest thing from his mind right now, he's just taking each competition one level at a time.

"I'm happy that I'm going (to Va.), and I'm a little more confident because I've done two boards already so I'm going to be more confident at the board," he said. "But I know it's not going to be easy, it's going to be the hardest one, but I hope I can go up there and represent."

USAG Brussels...serving the tri-mission community

Brussels Soldier receives Combat Action Badge

By Thad Moyseowicz

Brussels Public Affairs Officer

A U.S. Army Garrison Brussels Soldier received the Combat Action Badge for his service in Iraq.

Sgt. Jeff Turville was awarded the Combat Action Badge May 16 for action that occurred in February 2005 while he was assigned to a different unit downrange.



PHOTO: Thad Moyseowicz

Sgt. Jeff Turville receives the Combat Action Badge from U.S. Army Garrison Commander Lt. Col. Patrick Kilroy May 16 when he was engaged by the enemy after an improvised explosive device hit the convoy in which he was driving while serving downrange.

Turville, who is currently assigned to the garrison's transportation and motor pool, was driving in a convoy when an Improvised Explosive Device went off. The convoy pulled over on the side of the road and was shortly after engaged by the enemy.

The Combat Action Badge (CAB), a relatively recent Army award, was approved by the Chief of Staff of the Army on May 2, 2005, to provide special recognition to Soldiers who personally engage, or are engaged by the enemy, during combat operations.

Brussels Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Chris Pickett explained to all in attendance how "the current wars the Army is fighting have no 'front line' in the traditional sense. Soldiers in all occupational specialties can and frequently do find themselves directly involved in combat operations."

Turville said he had nothing to say about himself, but, speaking of his comrades in the field, he asked all present to join him in observing a moment of silence to remember those who would not be returning from the war zone, and, in particular, to recognize their families. Turville spoke movingly of the supreme importance of his wife Jenifer's support while he was in Iraq.

Phi Delta Kappa

Brussels community members honored

By Thad Moyseowicz

Brussels Public Affairs Officer

A Brussels American community student was honored at the Benelux Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa International final meeting of the school year May 21, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in historic Bruges.

Brussels American School (BAS) senior, Maria Baudoinjoux, joined SHAPE High School seniors Kara Fillman, Stephanie Gonzales and Noelle Ochintang in receiving \$750 PDK Benelux Chapter scholarships.

Baudoinjoux plans to attend Florida State University and earn a degree to teach health and physical education.

In addition to her Chapter Scholarship, Baudoinjoux was awarded a \$500 scholarship from the Gabbard Angel 100/100 Foundation affiliated with PDK International. This award memorializes Bessie Gabbard, the "First Lady of PDK" and longtime educational benefactor.

The Benelux PDK Chapter was authorized to award
See Honorees, page 7



PHOTO: Thad Moyseowicz

The Benelux Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa International honorees (l to r) Bill and Bobbie Greenwald, Maria Baudoinjoux and Ellen Moyseowicz.

Lady Brigands take soccer championships



PHOTO: Courtesy Brussels American School

The Brussels American School Lady Brigands netted the Department of Defense Dependent Schools Division IV European Soccer Championship May 20 held in the greater Ramstein-Kaiserslautern area.

BAS Men's Soccer team places 2nd

By Mark McVicker

Brussels American School

The Brussels American School (BAS) Lady Brigands netted the Department of Defense Dependent School's Division IV 2006 European Soccer Champions played in the May 17-20 in the greater Ramstein-Kaiserslautern area.

The BAS men's team finished second in their divisional tournament.

The Ladies had been seeded first in the tournament and came out of their pool in first place. They defeated Giessen 5-0 in the semifinals, then dominated Menwith Hill 5-1 for the championship.

Michelle Rosas, Caitlin Quinn, Katie Weatherbie and Brianna Fitch were named to the Division IV all-

tournament team, and Christine Exner was chosen as the tournament's most valuable player.

Winning the championship concluded a terrific season for the Lady Brigands. Already the Division III North Conference champions with a 4-1-1 record, they ended the year with an overall 9-1-1 record - their only loss coming against Division I International School of Brussels.

The BAS Men's team came in second in the Division IV European Championships. They won four of their six games in the grueling three-day tournament, finishing ahead of all DoDDS Division IV schools while losing to the International School of Milan, Italy.

Mike Hebing, Matt Parker and Logan Quinn were named to the Division IV all-tournament team. The Brigands men finished their season with an overall 7-4-2 record.

Memorial Day...from page 1

unexploded ordnance and Soldier remains are still found by farmers tilling the soil in the Ypres Salient where 6,000 canisters of chlorine gas rained down on Allied troops.

"Even after all of these years, we still grieve for the families and their loss," Hanlon said. "Many of the Soldiers fighting the violent war where the sons of immigrants who returned to Europe to defend liberty. We owe them our esteem respect for their sacrifice.... Because of their sacrifice, the world is a better place."

One former Soldier explained why he always attends Memorial Day ceremonies while working overseas.

"I'm here to honor those who fought before us because they gave the ultimate sacrifice," said Chief Warrant Officer 4 (ret.) Jim Tillery who currently works at the American Embassy in Brussels. "What does my heart proud is to see how Belgium and other countries pay homage to our 'boys.'"

Memorial Day ceremonies were also held at the four World War II cemeteries in the Benelux.

In Belgium, ceremonies were held at Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery and Memorial where 7,992 service members are buried; and at the Ardennes American Battlefield Cemetery (the final resting place for 5,329 who died in the Battle of the Bulge).

In The Netherlands, an estimated 4,000 people honored the 8,301 service members buried at The Netherlands American Cemetery and Memorial during Memorial Day activities in Margraten.

A ceremony was also held at the Luxembourg American Cemetery and Memorial in Hamm, Luxembourg, where 5,076 Americans are buried, including World War II hero Gen. George S. Patton.

A history buff attending activities at Henri-Chapelle with his wife and two daughters explained, "I feel I have to be here to honor those who liberated our area on Sept. 4, 1944," said Luc Delfosse, who lives in Soumagne, Belgium. "We also visit the grave my daughter's class adopted."

Leon Beco, 77, a former reservist living in Heusi, Belgium said his former military service "connects him with these fallen heroes."

Even Belgian youth turn out for the ceremonies.

At Flanders Field, since 1923, the Waregem School children sing *The Star Spangle Banner*, then lay a rose on one of the Soldiers graves.

American Belen Edwards, an eight-year-old living in Belgium commented, "I am here for all those soldiers that lay there."

Veterans across the Benelux, Dutch, Belgian and American attend to honor their fellow comrades.

Frans Fontaine, a member of the 5th Fusiliers Battalion, a Belgian regiment that fought with U.S. Armed Forces during the Battle of the Bulge, said,

"I am attending today's ceremony in memory and gratitude to our liberators who lost their life so we

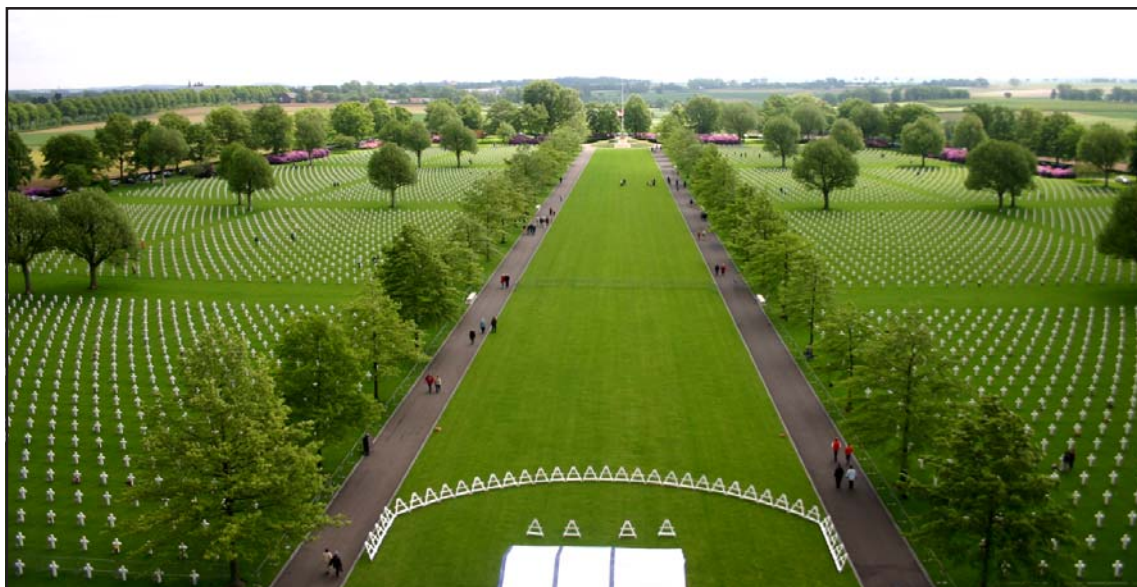


PHOTO: LaDonna Davis

An estimated 4,000 people attended the Memorial Day ceremony at the Netherlands American Cemetery and Memorial in Margraten, The Netherlands where 8,301 Americans are buried, killed while liberating Europe during WWII.

could live in freedom. As a member of the 5th Fusiliers, I will not forget the brotherhood relations that started in combat during the Battle of the Bulge."

Fellow 5th Fusiliers Soldier, Robert Lemaire, explained he attended the memorial ceremony "today, in gratitude to the U.S. nation. It is impossible for me to forget that without all of these soldiers that lay here, we wouldn't be free."

American WWII veteran Anthony Eagen, who served with the Dutch resistance and has lived in The Netherlands since 1945, reflected on his service more than 60 years ago while watching the Memorial Day ceremony in Margraten. Eagen said, "I witnessed many of the dead during WWII and I'm paying my respects and love for the departed - the departed then, and the departed now."

Eagen sees no comparison between the Soldiers of his generation who liberated Europe, and those serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. "There's no comparison between WWII and the Global War on Terrorism. Ours was one great Army against another and this is more or less a gorilla war. Before you knew who your enemy was and now you don't."

Alon de Vras, who retired from the Royal Netherlands Navy said he feels a closeness to those interred at Margraten. "I come here because I have an affinity with all of those men that were killed," he said. "I think the Dutch should always be thankful because they (Americans) gave their lives for our freedom, our liberty. I think its sad when you think of how many people have never heard of this place and the men who gave their lives and rest in peace at this cemetery."

Leonard Spivey, another American retired WWII veteran and a member of the 381 Bomb Group Association explained, "I come here each year first and foremost because I have three of my crew members buried here that were killed; they were shot down over Holland in 1943.

"Four of my crew members, including the three buried here in Margraten were killed in that attack, and six of us survived by bailing out," he said. "I believe this is a very impressive ceremony to create a memorial and recognition of all, not just those that are buried here, but all of the allied Soldiers, Sailors, and Airmen that were killed and were wounded for our country.

Some come to remember. Some to forget. For Armand Blau, who has authored books about the cemetery, he comes to the Memorial Day activities because he can never forget.

"I come here nearly every year," he said. "For myself, the war is never over.... I saw children shot by Germans, I saw American prisoners, the war is always in my memory."

The more than 10,000 people, Belgian, Dutch, French and Americans who visited American Battlefield cemeteries Memorial Day attended "to say never again," said James B. Begg, president of the American Overseas Memorial Day Association. "Never again the atrocities, never again the occupation.... You came here today to say thank you to the boys who helped liberate Europe.

NOTE: Cis Spook, Chièvres Garrison public affairs officer and LaDonna Davis, USAG Schinnen Public Affairs Office contributed to this report.

Honorees...from page 6

this additional scholarship in recognition of its members' 100 percent contribution to the national Foundation.

Several other Brusselites recognized include:

□ U.S. Army Brig. Gen. John Adams, the Deputy U.S. Military Representative at NATO HQ, was honored as a "Friend of Education" for his consistent support of the Brussels American School.

□ Ellen Moyseowicz was named "Outstanding School

Volunteer" for her many hours of "behind the scenes" work at BAS.

□ Finally, BAS teacher and outgoing PDK Benelux Chapter President Bobbie Greenwald and her husband, Bill, were honored as "Kappans of the Year" in recognition for their many significant contributions to PDK in the Benelux over the years.

The Benelux Chapter, under Mrs. Greenwald's four-year presidency, awarded over

\$10,000 in scholarships to local students, grew substantially in membership and events, and sponsored an acclaimed partnership with Ukrainian schools and educators.

"PDK," a fraternal organization for educators, has a particularly active Benelux branch. The organization is dedicated to educational research, service, leadership and to inspiring young people to seek careers as educators.

Brussels Community Town Hall Meeting

Do you have issues, complaints or suggestions about current policies and practices in the Brussels community?

Would you like to find out more about epic changes on the horizon for medical and dental services, including the possibility of orthodontic care being offered in Brussels?

In addition to key community leaders, special guests from the medical and dental

commands will be in attendance to discuss these and many more topics at the Brussels Community Town Hall meeting Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Brussels American School multipurpose room.

If you have an issue you would like addressed at the meeting, please send it to CommunityCoordinator@usdelmc.army.mil or call 02 707-9488.

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